

Message Text

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17

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4220

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, ELAB, AR

SUBJECT: LORENZO MIGUEL EMERGES MAJOR VICTOR IN MEAT WORKERS
FEDERATION CONFLICT

REF: BUENOS AIRES 7159

1. MEAT WORKERS FEDERATION (CARNE) NORMALIZING CONGRESS ENDED JANUARY 20 WITH ELECTION OF NEW EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO REPLACE ONE PREVIOUSLY HEADED BY CGT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER CONSTANTINO ZORILA. SECGEN IS LESIO ROMERO, WHO WITH THE USE OF ARMED ASSISTANTS FORCEFULLY EJECTED ZORILA FROM FEDERATION HEADQUARTERS ON OCTOBER 20. EXCLUDED FROM NEW BOARD WERE ZORILA, ARIAS, ESCALADA AND ALL OTHER ZORILA SUPPORTERS. ROMERO ANNOUNCED THAT FIRST ACTION OF NEW BOARD WILL BE TO NAME NEW REPRESENTATIVE TO REPLACE ZORILA IN THE CGT.

2. AS DETAILED IN REFTTEL, ZORILA WAS EJECTED FOLLOWING HIS WITHDRAWAL OF CARNE'S REPRESENTATIVE (ROMERO) FROM THE 62 ORGANIZATIONS. ZORILA WAS FOLLOWING THE LEAD OF ANTI-VERTICALIST CONGRESSIONAL LEADER LUIS RUBEO, WHO HEADED CONGRESSIONAL LABOR OPPOSITION TO MIGUEL. CARNE WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTERVENED BY MINLABOR RUCKAUF, A STAUNCH MIGUEL SUPPORTER. CONGRESS WAS ORCHESTRATED WITH THE SUPPORT OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS UNION (UTCRA) SECGEN ROGELIO PAPAGNO, WHO SLAVISHLY FOLLOWS MIGUEL'S

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LEAD.

3. MIGUEL UTILIZED SAME TACTICS IN ATTEMPT TO QUASH OPPOSITION IN CIVIL SERVICE (UPCN) AND GASTRONOMIC (UTGRA) WORKERS UNIONS. UPCN SECGEN JOSE VILLAFANE WAS FORCIBLY EJECTED FROM UNION ON NOVEMBER 5 BY ARMED OPPONENTS WHO JUSTIFIED ACTIONS ON SAME CHARGES AS THOSE LEVIED AGAINST ZORILA. UPCN WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTERVINED BY MINLABOR AND NEW ELECTIONS ARE EXPECTED WITHIN NEAR FUTURE. A SIMILAR ACTION ON IDENTICAL GROUNDS WAS ATTEMPTED ON DECEMBER 12 AGAINST UTGRA SECGEN RAMON ELORZA. HOWEVER, ELORZA, A HIGHLY RESPECTED LABOR LEADER WHO IS ALSO A CGT EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER AND DIRECTOR OF ITS INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT, MANAGED TO RECOVER THE UNION HEADQUARTERS AND FORESTALL A MINLABOR INTERVENTION. ELORZA IS A MAJOR LEADER OF THE NEO-VANDORIST GROUP OF EIGHT WHO HAVE PROVIDED MAJOR UNION SUPPORT FOR ANTI-VERTICALIST, ANTI-MIGUEL LABOR LEGISLATORS AND AFFIRMATION PERONIST GROUP. DURING HEIGHT OF CONFLICT ELORZA TOLD LABATT THAT LORENZO MIGUEL WAS DIRECTING USURPER'S ACTIONS, BUT THAT HE WAS CONVINCED HIS CONTROL OF UNION WAS SUFFICIENT TO FRUSTRATE MIGUEL'S PLANS. IN THIS CASE IT WAS SIFFICIENT AS NO FURTHER ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO DISPLACE ELORZA.

4. COMMENT: THE CARNE ELECTION IS SEEN AS A VICTORY FOR MIGUEL IN HIS ONGOING ATTEMPT TO DISPLACE CALABRO. HIS LACK OF SUCCESS WITH ELORZA, HOWEVER, MAY PUT A ROADBLOCK IN ANY NEW ATTEMPTS AGAINST OTHER OPPONENTS.

5. REQUEST SUBSTANCE THIS MESSAGE BE GIVEN MCLELLAN, AFL-CIO.
BEAL

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